

From: Rob Short
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/20/01 5:41am
Subject: Microsoft Anti-trust

Thank you for setting up this feedback link to the DOJ. I appreciate the ability to respond to the topic of Microsoft's anti-trust activity.

I believe we should vigorously pursue legal remediation for the following reasons:

1. Microsoft consistently demonstrates an aggressive predatory practice towards smaller, more nimble but less cash rich companies.

result:

A. as a result of this practice, innovation is diminished as Microsoft slaps together proprietary means of controlling the general public's use of technology.

B. America's ability to engage in progress in the new information age is stifled as Microsoft seeks to control the markets rather than have technology move forward.

2. Any company attempting to corner the technology market this early in a new era is a threat to the well being of America's competitive philosophies. Imagine standardizing on a particular type of car at the beginning of the 20th century, or one type of boat at the dawn of the age of discovery.

3. Microsoft blurs the lines of international standards for web access and functionality.

result:

An internet that doesn't always work the way it should with competing versions of JAVA and html that do not work the same way on each platform or each browser as Microsoft makes Explorer work only with certain flavors.

Internet companies with huge productivity losses as they have to design web sites with competing versions of standards in mind.

Microsoft is more than capable of competing fairly, it is time that we impose very harsh restrictions on their anti competitive practices. Their last series of court cases clearly showed their willingness to lie in the courtroom(-telling the Federal government in a sham test that Explorer could not be seperated from Windows), demonstrated their reliance upon lawyers and delaying tactics rather than innovation, and showed the American public how smaller companies that could have made a difference in the future have been smashed by Microsoft legal hopscotch

and the release of inferior products onto the market.

Thanks for the opportunity to respond.

Warm regards,

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